

News from

Congressman Ron Kind

REPRESENTING WISCONSIN'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Contact: Stephanie Lundberg

Phone: 202-225-5506

1406 Longworth House Office Building • Washington, D.C. 20515 • (202) 225-5506

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 16, 2004

Kind, House Democrats Unveil "American Jobs Plan"

Proposal Would End Outsourcing of Jobs, Encourage Job Creation in U.S.

Washington, DC – U.S. Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI) joined other Members of Congress today in announcing a broad plan to get America back to work and to encourage U.S. companies to keep jobs in America. The "American Jobs Plan" is a comprehensive plan that will end the outsourcing of quality, good paying U.S. jobs and invest in the education, highways, and broadband Internet access that will bring more jobs to Wisconsin.

"We are optimistic about the talents of the American worker, but we need to give them a fighting chance," said Rep. Kind. "Democrats have a vision for the future of our workforce and a plan to keep America competitive in a changing global marketplace, keep good paying jobs here at home, and create new jobs. Let's invest in American jobs, American factories, American schools, and American workers."

The "American Jobs Plan" proposes closing \$125 billion worth of tax loopholes that reward companies for moving jobs overseas, and replacing them instead with two new tax incentives targeted to companies, both large and small, that create new jobs in the United States. Under the new jobs plan, savings from ending tax loopholes would be invested in job training, education, and research and development. The plan, which is fully paid for, also gives U.S. companies priority for obtaining government contracts if they keep jobs in America.

"America's workers, like myself, are suffering," said Ron Larson, a former IT professional from Wisconsin who, after losing his job in 2001, has struggled to find comparable work and has had to dip into his retirement savings to make ends meet. "I was laid-off as a senior IT helpdesk analyst with 14 years experience in February 2001 and have not been able to find a full-time good-paying job since then. Our country is not just losing good quality jobs, we are losing resources, skills, families, education and the American way."

Several of the key proposals in the "American Jobs Plan" agenda include:

• A new jobs tax credit to give American manufacturers, small businesses, and other industries impacted by outsourcing \$3,000 for every job they create in the next two years.

- A new small business tax credit to help make health care more affordable for smaller firms so they can expand.
- A highway bill to create hundreds of thousands of jobs by modernizing and rebuilding highways, airports, railroad lines, ports, and water treatment facilities.
- Giving priority for government contracts to companies investing in American jobs.
- Expanding investment in broadband infrastructure to make using the Internet more cost effective for families and small businesses in rural areas, and connect industrial parks and small business incubators with high-speed links.
- Making college more accessible by doubling Pell Grants for low and moderate income students to \$11,600 by 2011.
- Increased funding for job training, and new programs to ensure that workers are trained for industries with an unmet demand for high-skilled talent.
- Expanding trade adjustment assistance to high-tech workers and other service workers who lose their jobs due to offshoring, which would allow them greater access to job training, health benefits, and funding for job search and relocation expenses.

'American Jobs Plan' attached.

Pictures available upon request.